

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 SAM-01 OMB-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

DRC-01 /103 W

----- 006176

O R 030931Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9874

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS MADRID 5504

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJECT: FRANCO RESUMES POWERS OF CHIEF OF STATE

1. FRANCO HAS REASSUMED FULL POWERS AS CHIEF OF STATE EFFECTIVE SEPT 2. EVENING OF SEPT 2 GOVT RELEASED TEXTS OF FORMAL NOTIFICATIONS SENT BY PRIME MINISTER ARIAS NAVARRO TO CORTES AND TO PRINCE JUAN CARLOS STATING THAT IN VIEW OF AUG 31 FINDINGS BY FRANCO'S DOCTORS THAT CAUDILLO'S ILLNESS NO LONGER EXISTED, FRANCO HAD DECIDED TO RESUME THE FUNCTIONS JUAN CARLOS HAS TEMPORARILY PERFORMED SINCE JULY 19.

2. MEDICAL BULLETIN RELEASED AUG 31 AT FRANCO'S SUMMER RETREAT IN GALICIA, WHICH WAS SIGNED BY SEVEN SPECIALISTS ATTENDING FRANCO, STATED THAT "HAVING STUDIED AGAIN CLINICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND CONDUCTED A NEW EXAMINATION, AND HAVING CONSIDERED LATEST ANALYTICAL DATA, (THE MEDICAL GROUP) INFORMS THAT THE THROMBOPHLEBITIC PROCESS OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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LOWER RIGHT EXTREMITY IS CLINICALLY CURED, THEREBY ENDING

HIS CONVALESCENCE AND ENABLING HIM TO RENEW HIS CUSTOMARY LIFE."

3. DUE TO RELATIVELY LATE ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESUMPTION OF POWERS, PRESS REACTION HAS BEEN LIGHT SO FAR. THOSE PAPERS WHO HAVE COMMENTED HAVE PREDICTABLY WELCOMED FRANCO'S RETURN AND HAILED PRUDENCE, PATRIOTISM AND STATESMANSHIP SHOWN BY PRINCE DURING 46-DAY PERIOD HE ACTED AS HEAD OF STATE. PRESS COMMENTARIES HAVE ALSO NOTED THAT, IN CASE OF FRANCO'S TEMPORARY SURRENDER AND RESUMPTION OF POWERS, CONSTITUTIONAL MACHINERY HAS WORKED SATISFACTORILY THROUGHOUT.
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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